**Washington, D.C.** – U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan (FL-13) said today he is opposed to President Obama's new \$50 billion spending proposal and called on Congress to pass a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution.

"We don't need more deficit spending on government projects," said Buchanan. "Today, our debt exceeds \$13 trillion and the federal budget deficit this year will again surpass \$1 trillion, further enlarging the debt. It is time for Washington to get spending under control rather than pass onto our children and grandchildren an ocean of rising red ink."

The first bill Buchanan introduced in 2007 called for a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution.

"A Balanced Budget Amendment would force lawmakers to do what every American family has to do -- live within its means, "said Buchanan.

The 13th District Congressman has also introduced a five-point jobs plan to provide tax relief to small business, curb frivolous lawsuits, and reduce the debt.

"Priority number one is getting Americans back to work," said Buchanan. "Small business creates most of the jobs in this country. My bill would encourage them to hire new workers."

Meanwhile, the Capitol Hill newspaper "Roll Call" reported that, House Democratic leaders are already "writing off" the President's proposal to spend \$50 billion on transportation projects.